A B S T R A C T

A router made up firstly of at least two router modules, only one of which is in an active state at any given time, and secondly of changeover means making it possible to cause one of the other router modules to go from a standby state to an active state when the router module in the active state stops, and the router modules having state machines associated with each of the neighbor routers, wherein each of the router modules has data storage means which, in the active state, enable it to store data relating to the states of the state machines, when said machines are in stable states, and data retrieval means for retrieving said data when the router module changes over to the active state.